ii. Australian carriers can serve Calcutta, Delhi and Mumbai and combine Calcutta with Delhi or Mumbai on the same flight. The designated airline of India can continue to combine three points of call in Australia on the same flight.

(c) The above revised entitlements have come into force on the date of signature of the Memorandum of Understanding i.e. 16.10.96.

[English]

Outstanding Dues against Railways

209. SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have to pay a huge amount to Maharashtra on account of deployment of Police Force of the State on railway duties since 1979;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for such a long delay in making the payment to the State Government; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to expedite payment of above outstanding dues to the State Governments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) and (b) The total outstanding with the railways at present is Rs. 6.61 crores. However, this amount does not include claims of approximately Rs. 22.57 crores rejected by Central Railway on account of creation of posts of GRP personnel without the approval of Railway administration.

(c) The reasons attributed to the delay in payment are as under:

i. Non-submission of audit certificate by the State Government.

ii. Constraints of budget provision for the purpose.

iii. Unilateral creation of GRP posts by the State Government without approval of Railway administration.

(d) Clearly admissible bills will be passed in 1996-97 subject to the availability of funds.

[Translation]

Paucity of Drinking Water at the Railway Stations situated in Rural Areas

210. SHRI BHIMRAO VISHNUJI BADADE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that there is paucity of drinking water at the railway stations situated in rural areas;

(b) if so, the measures being taken by the Government to provide drinking water facility at the said railway stations;

(c) whether the Government are also aware that there is no arrangement of drinking water facility at Kapargaon Railway Station where thousands of Pilgrims come daily to visit Shirdi-Sai Baba temple and whether Government propose to make any arrangements in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) to (e) Facility of drinking water in one way or other is provided invariably at all railway stations of Indian Railways, irrespective of the fact whether they fall under rural or urban area.

Kopargaon railway station has railway's own well as well as water suply connection from the local authority. Sufficient water taps, a water cooler, water hut with 6 Gharas and 3 water trollys are provided at the station which are adequate for the level of traffic handled.

[English]

Acquisition of Land

211. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have acquired any land for the International Airport Authority of India along Delhi-Jaipur National Highway No. 8 adjacent to Palam Airport;

(b) if so, the details thereof, indicating the total acreage of land acquired and compensation paid to farmers;

(c) the purpose for which the acquired land has been earmarked; and

(d) the details of the land taken into use as on September 30, 1996?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM): (a) to (d). More than 3500 acres of land surrounding/abutting Palam airport was acquired by the Civil Aviation Department through the Delhi Administration for the development of Delhi Airport. Precise figures of compensation paid are not available. This land subsequently came under the control of International Airports Authority of India. National Highway No. 8 has also been diverted from its previous location, due to operational reasons and has been constructed on the lands acquired from adjoining Mahipalpur and Rangpuri Villages. Actual utilisation of land by Airports Authority of India as on 30-9-1996 at